Message Text

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R 301530Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4044

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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PARIS FOR UNESCO

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: CERP 008:

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

REF: STATE 72386

1. BEGIN SUMMARY - UNDP CONTINUES EXERT MAJOR POSITIVE IMPACT ON DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE RWANDA. PROGRAMS IN MOST CASES COMPLEMENT THOSE OTHER DONORS. UNDP RESREP EFFECTIVE AND CONTROLS ALL UN ACTIVITIES (WITH OCCASIONAL DIFFICULTY). UNDP FINANCIAL CRISIS EXERTING MAJOR CONSTRAINT ON CONLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TINUED UN EFFECTIVENESS REANDA WITH 76 PROGRAM LEVELS EXPECTED DECLINE BY 56 PERCENT. END SUMMARY

2. ROLE UNDP RESREP - RESREP COMPLETING SECOND YEAR IN RWANDA AND REGARDED BY GOR AND OTHER DONRS AS COORDI-NATOR ALL UN ACTIVITIES (WHO AND UNHCR REPRESENTED SEPARATELY AND PROTOCOL JEALOUSIES ARISE OCCASIONALLY). RESREP HAS MASTERED JOB AND EMB REGARDS HIM AS AN EFFECTIVE UNDP ADMINISTRATOR. WHILE PERSONAL RELATION-SHIP WITH GOR APPEARS GOOD IF NOT CLOSE, THERE HAVE BEEN INDICATIONS OF INTERNAL UNDP MANAGEMENT DIFFICULTIES OCCASIONED BY PERSONALITY CONFLICTS AMONG UN FIELD AGENCIES. UNDP/IBRD ACTIVITIES WELL COORDINATED IN FIELD. WITH OCCASIONAL COMPLEMENTARY PROJECTS (IBRD ROAD CON-STRUCTION/UNDP ROAD MAINTENANCE). ASSISTANT RESREP NOTED COORDINATION BY TWO ORGANIZATIONS EXCELLENT IN FIELDS SUCH AS EDUCATION. WHILE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES EXIST IN ROAD CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE WITH UN BELIEVING BANK PROJECT POORLY MANAGED AND TOO EXPENSIVE. WITH EXCEPTION WHO/ UNHCR REPS, ALL UN PERSONNEL ATTACHED RESREP STAFF. APPX. 30 PERCENT UN EXPERTS ASSIGNED VARIOUS GOR MINISTRIES, E.G., MINERALS RESEARCH AND ILO, AND THERE APPEAR TO BE NO DIFFICULTIES COORDINATION OR SUBORDINATION WITH THIS ARRANGEMENT.

3. COORDINATION EXPERNAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - NO FORMAL MECHANISM CURRENTLY EXISTS FOR MULTILATERAL OR BILATERAL COORDINATION. WITH EMB PRODDING, RESREP ARRANGING DONOR ROUND-TABLE TO CONVENE IN LATE 1976. RESREP WAS CHAIRMAN INTERNATIONAL DONOR COMMITTEE DURING RWANDA FOOD SHORTAGE 1974-75 AND WAS HIGHLY EFFECTIVE IN COORDINATING APPX. 22,000 TONS RELIEF FOOD SHIPMENTS AND DOLS 1.3 MILLION CASH CONTRIBUTIONS (SEE KIGALI TOAID/W-1 OF 1/23/76 -- US AMB TO RWANDA ALSO FORMALLY COMMENDED HIM FOR HIS EFFORTS). GOR PREVIOUSLY RELUCTANT ENDORSE CONCEPT DONOR COORDINATION IN FEAR OVERALL REDUCTION AID LEVELS, BUT EMERGENCY COMMITTEE'S SUCCESS LED GOR TO BACK PROPOSED ROUND-TABLE.

4. FINANCIAL RESTRAINTS - UNDP AUSTERITY MEASURES LATE FALL 75 HAVE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED PROGRAM. ORIGINAL 1976 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROGRAM LEVEL SET AT DOLS. 7.8 MILLION, BUT REVISED
76 PROGRAM, REFLECTING BUDGET CUTS, NOW STANDS AT DOLS.
3.6 MILLION FOR A REDUCTION OF 55.8 PERCENT. ELEVEN
PROJECTS POSTPONED OR CANCELLED, THREE OTHERS NOW
O
SCHEDULED FOR TERMINATION END 1976 AND 12 UNDP EXPERTS
BEING TERMINATED. PROJECT REVISIONS CARRIED OUT IN
PAINED CONSULTATION GOR WHICH OPTED FOR GRANTING PRIORITY
TO THOSE PROJECTS PROVIDING POSSIBLE QUICK ECONOMIC
RETURN, E.G., MINERALS RESEARCH, PYRETHRUM EXTRACTING

PLANT, TANNERY, AND VEGETABLE EXPORTS. UNFORTUNATELY, PROJECTS OF EVEN GREATER LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IMPORTANCE, G.G., AGRUCULTURAL EXTENSION, SOIL CONSERVATION, AND INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT, GIVEN LESS PRIORITY AND SCHEDULED TO BE DROPPED. UN PLANNING FIGURES PROJECT DOLS. 19.75 MILLION FOR ENTIRE SECOND CYCLE. HOWEVER, IT HOPED THAT BUDGET WILL BE INCREASED AT MEETING NEXT GOVERNING COUNCIL IN ORDER PEMIT HIGHER LEVEL 1977 EXPENDITURES. COUNTRY PROGRAMMING PLAN SECOND CYCLE NOW DUE COMPLETION JUNE 1977 UNDERGOING MAJOR REVISION IN ORDER ATTEMPT RECOVER GOUND LOST DURING 76 AUSTERITY PROGRAM. EMB WILL COMMENT FURTHER ON THIS PROBLEM BY SEPTEL.

5. COUNTRY PROGRAMMING - PREOCCUPATION WITH REVISING 76 PROJECTS IN ORDER MEET AUSTERITY BUDGET RESPONSIBLE FOR SLIPPAGE COMPLETION OF 77-81 COUNTRY PROGRAM TO JUNE 1977. SINCE PLAN EXPECTED CONCENTRATE HEAVILY ON AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, FAO MISSION EXPECTED LATER THIS YEAR PARTICIPATE IN PREPARATION. UN STATES IT DISCOURAGING ARRIVAL OTHER MISSIONS IN ORDER NOT AROUSE GOR HOPES NEW PROGRAMS IN VIEW FINANCIAL RESTRAINTS. DONOR ROUND-TABLE EXPECTED PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INPUTS COUNTRY PROGRAM.

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6. PROJECT EVALUATION - RESREP BELIEVES TRIPARTITE
REVIEW SYSTEM EFFECTIVE IN OVERALL PROJECT EVALUATION AND
PARTICULARLY AS INSTRUMENT FOR PROVIDING GOR WITH AWARENESS OF DIFFICULTIES PROJECT MANAGEMENT. MAJOR PROBLEMS
HAVE BEEN LACK OF SUITABLE COUNTERPARTS TO WORK WITH
UN EXPERTS. TRIPARTITE SYSTEM HAS NOT RESULTED IN
ELIMINATION ANY PROJECTS AS NONE HAS BEEN JUDGED
MARGINAL. ASIDE FROM QUALITY COUNTERPART PERSONNEL AND
OCCASIONAL BUDGETARY PROBLEMS REDUCING GOR COUNTERPART
CONTRIBUTIONS, UN STATES THERE FEW DIFFICULTIES WITH
GOR OVER PROJECT MANAGEMENT.
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- 7. APPRAISAL OF PROPOSED PROJECTS EMB CONTINUES BE UNSUCCESSFUL RPT UNSUCCESSFUL IN RECEIVING PROPOSED PROJECTS FROM UNDP FOR EVALUATION PRIOR THEIR IMPLEMENTATION. ASSISTANT RESREP UNAWARE ANY OBLIGATION CONSULT EMB ON PROPOSED PROJECTS. PREVIOUS REPORT THIS SERIES (75 KIGALI 231) REQUESTED THAT UNDP PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS RESREP THIS REGARD.
- 8. WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT ONE OF MAJOR PROJECTS WITH IMPACT ON WOMEN, AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION, QBEING CURTAILED BECAUSE OF BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS, UNDP NOTES THAT WHILE THERE SOME INCREASE IN NUMBER OF WOMEN IN GOR MANAGEMENT LPOSITIONS, IT STILL HESITANT PRESENT CONDIDACY WOMAN TO GOR AS MAJOR PROJECT DIRECTOR. RWANDAN CULTURAL FACTORS INHIBIT MAJOR ROLE BY WOMEN, ALTHOUGH TIERE ARE SOME EFFORTS (INCLUDING INITIATION BY GOR PRESIDENT) TO CHANGE TRADITIONAL ATTITUDES.
- 9. REGRET THIS REPORT DELAYED BY ABSENCE KEY OFFICERS ON TDY SECRETARY'S AFRICAN TRIP. FRITTS

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